

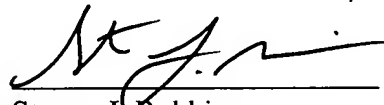
REMARKS

Request for Allowance

Consideration and early allowance of this application are earnestly solicited.

If any matters remain which could be resolved in a telephone interview between the Examiner and the undersigned, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned to expedite resolution of any such matters.

Respectfully submitted,
THELEN, REID, & PRIEST LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. J. Robbins', is written over a horizontal line.

Steven J. Robbins
Reg. No. 49,097

Dated: January 22, 2004

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